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NEW METHOD BRINGS HIGHER OUTPUT
AT MOSCOW SALICYLIC PLANT

A. Lebedev

Improvements suggested by Operator G. Ye. Volkov are the subject of conversation not only at Chemico-Pharmaceutical Enterprises of the Main Administration of Medical Industries, but even at the Moscow Salicylic Factory. Volkov was able to suggest methods whereby the time required for one of the most complicated operations was cut in half without any decrease in the quality of the manufactured goods. Under his system Volkov is able to service 14 different machine-tool units by himself. Final production was increased by 46 percent. The Ministry of Chemical Industries considers this innovation important, as it awarded the Distinguished Medical Worker Award to Volkov.

In brief, Volkov arrived at his method as a result of the following facts. One of the most important problems in the chemical industry is the establishment of independent raw-material sources. At a salicylic factory the first shop -- the one which produces industrial salicylic acid used in the manufacture of all types of salicylic products -- can be considered a raw-material source. In the past year the process of autoclaving was improved, but this improvement alone did not solve all the problems. It was the job of one engineer to tend the furnaces for the heating system. It was a complicated stoking system, and if anything went wrong on the evening shift, no work could be done until the morning shift when the engineer returned. Volkov thought of a very simple system. In a recent break-down of the heating system, Volkov marshalled a force of unskilled laborers and repaired the heating system without having to wait until the arrival of the master engineer. He is a fine example of the type of worker who is turned out as a result of the Soviet Socialist Competition program. It is necessary that his ideals be promulgated in every industry.

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